



CONCORDIA
UNIVERSITY
STUDENTS'
ASSOCIATION

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

INFORMATION GENERAL MEETING

**HELD ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1993 AT 2:00 P.M.
IN H-110, SIR GEORGE WILLIAMS CAMPUS**

ASSOCIATION
DES ÉTUDIANTS
ET ÉTUDIANTES
DE L'UNIVERSITÉ
CONCORDIA

Documents Considered:

BD-D1: Chief Returning Officer's Report

1.0 The CRO'S REPORT ON THE BY-ELECTION

Chairperson, Geoff Dubrow called this meeting to order at 2:15 p.m.

He introduced J. Chatelain, the Chief Returning Officer who proceeded to read her report.

J. Chatelain stated that all polling clerks were trained and supervised by the DRO's at all times. She added that cooperation was acquired by security who was cautious with the ballot boxes and kept the keys and unused ballots locked in the security offices, up until the ballot counting.

J. Chatelain stated that all voters were asked to sign a declaration of eligibility form which was used as a cross reference after the voting took place. She added that no one voted twice.

J. Chatelain stated that the ballot counting went really well.

J. Chatelain proceeded to declare the results of the election, namely for the faculty of Commerce and Administration Andrea Fernandez was voted into office; for the faculty of Fine Arts, the three directors who were voted into office were : Jonathan Carruthers, Jonathan Asencio and Aimée Darcel; for the faculty of Arts & Science Marilyne Boyer, Allan Feldman, Wissam Jawad and Thomas Moll were voted into office; for the faculty of Engineering & Computer Science, although there was some confusion on her part, whereby she was under the impression that there were three (3) vacant seats and students were asked to vote for up to three directors, the two directors who were voted into office were: Shadi Khader and Andrew Kennedy.

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J. Chatelain stated that with regards to the referendum questions, the students safety patrol program was endorsed, the Concordian fee increase was not and that students voted to continue membership in ANEEQ.

J. Chatelain stated that 789 students voted, well above the quorum requirements for this by-election.

J. Chatelain stated that there was only one problem, that being with the Engineering & Computer Science portion of the election, whereby there were only two (2) vacant seats and whereas she was under the impression that there were three (3) seats. She added that consequently students were asked to vote for a maximum of three directors for this faculty. Jasmine stated that she received a letter of complaint well before the deadline, from one of the candidates who lost, Dane Doleman who requested that a recount be conducted with only the ballots that had two checkmarks and failing that, a revote take place. She added that after having spoken with Dane Doleman, his complaint stemmed from the fact that his friend Muriel Sabbag came in third place. Jasmine concluded by saying that D. Doleman has since forwarded another letter asking for J. Chatelain to disregard his former request to have a revote.

J. Chatelain stated that she was well under budget and added that there remains \$250.00 in the budget.

J. Chatelain recommended that in the future an agreement be made with the Dean of Students Office to have access to their computers. She added that setting of election dates and hiring the electoral staff be conducted well ahead of time to facilitate the process and the preparations the Chief Returning Officer is expected to carry out. Jasmine suggested that more time be allocated between the nomination period and the campaign period and that the DRO's be paid more in wages considering the amount of work they put in.

2.0 SUMMARY OF THE 1991-92 AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR CUSA INC. AND CUSACORP MANAGEMENT LTD.

P. Dalton stated that CUSA Inc. started the fiscal year with a surplus of \$127,000 and resulted with a deficit of \$257,000 by the end of the 1991-92 fiscal year. He added that the overall deficit that the current administration inherited from its predecessors is well over \$300,000. Philip stated that the Co-Presidents have been waiting for some course of action coming from the Board of Directors, which was passed at a Special meeting held on November 1st 1993.

3.0 FORMAL STATEMENT ON PLAN OF ACTION IN RESPONSE TO THE 1991-92 AUDITOR'S REPORT

P. Dalton proceeded to read the Co-Presidential statement and the proposed plan of action.

P. Dalton stated that at the September 30th meeting of the Board of Directors, the audits for both CUSA Inc. and CUSAcorp Management Ltd. were presented by Arthur Anderson & Co. and added that the financial picture presented by the audit leaves too much activity unaccounted for.

P. Dalton stated that the statements and records for the 1991-92 fiscal year do not permit this Board to operate with a clean slate and added that the Board has not lost sight of the obligation it has to present a definitive and precise analysis of CUSA's financial history since June 1st 1991.

P. Dalton stated that the office of the Vice President Finance is implementing the controls recommended by Arthur Anderson & Co. to ensure sound financial management in years to come. He added that effective Monday November 1st, 1993 the Co-Presidents have authorized the undertaking of an internal forensic audit for the association and its subsidiary books for the 1991-92 fiscal year. Philip stated that under the supervision of Arthur Anderson, a task force will begin reconstructing the books in order to account for every transaction that took place during the fiscal year 1991-92. He added that the goal is to confirm the actual revenues and expenditures and to confirm if these amounts were duly authorized and budgeted.

P. Dalton stated that this task force will be coordinated by a core of students who have retired from positions in industry ranging from chief executive officers to vice presidents of finance, in addition to teachers in the field of accounting and management. He added that any evidence that indicates misappropriation, mismanagement or negligence will be brought to the attention of the appropriate authorities. Philip stated that serious enquiries have already been made to these authorities, in a meeting with detective Lucien Doucet, of the fraud division of the Montreal police, it was established that his department would only be in a position to act once they received clear evidence from CUSA.

P. Dalton stated that the current audited statements alone do not present sufficient evidence to allow the fraud division to commence an investigation. He added that the Co-Presidents are confident that their only logical option is to proceed with an internal forensic audit.

P. Dalton stated that the association is beginning to work on constructing the books for the fiscal year 1992-93 immediately and added that to cut costs drastically this preparatory work will be done by a similar task force under the supervision of Arthur Anderson. Philip stated that the structure and method of compiling the information will be designed by Arthur Anderson, at no cost to the association. He added that this project will be the day to day responsibility of this Board and specifically director P. O'Connor, who has been thoroughly briefed by Arthur Anderson and will be coordinating a team of students operating under extremely pressured deadlines.

P. Dalton stated that the current administration is determined to present to the students the real financial picture from 1991-93 and having carefully considered the cost of an external forensic audit it feels it to be an impossible financial venture for this association to even consider at this time. He added that the current administration is acutely aware of their obligation to account for all CUSA student fees and added that the day to day work will not be affected and that new projects and programs will not be compromised as this work is being done.

P. Dalton stated that it is of utmost importance that the current administration set the record straight and determine what was inherited from its predecessors.

4.0 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET AS APPROVED IN DRAFT BY THE CUSA
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

L. Grimes stated that the budget was tabled at the meeting on Monday, to be discussed at Thursday's meeting. She added that it is not appropriate that this issue be discussed at this point.

5.0 Vice Presidential Commission Reports

L. Grimes stated that the Co-Presidents have authorized for the Vice Presidents to have an assistant Vice President, coordinating a commission of six students, three from the Board of Directors and three from the student body at large. She added that the goal is to have all the programs and projects that were envisioned from the beginning to at least be attempted.

M. Soso, V.P. Services stated that her commission has four members, namely D. Page, S. Schacter, H. Rocker and J.J. Summin and added the commission's first meeting will be held on November 11th at 4:00 p.m.

M. Giles, V.P. Academic stated the office of the Vice President Academic and the Academic Commission looks after Senate, Arts & Science faculty council and faculty councils in general, academic issues that would be raised at those councils as well as non-academic issues. She added that the latter looks after issues like rules and codes of behavior within the university.

M. Giles stated that she is working very hard with advocacy and has recruited members from her commission to work on it. She added that presently the commission is working on formulation of solid student initiative in terms of GPA reform and the GPA system itself. Marika stated that soon there will be petitions circulated with regards to the grade standardization system which is unfair, whereby the number grades are not translated to letter grades. Marika encouraged everyone to sign this petition since it will be taken to Senate and the faculty councils in a concerted attempt to put together an initiative.

M. Giles stated that her commission is also working on putting together a course and teacher evaluation which will hopefully be ready in time for early registration next year.

M. Giles stated that a concerted effort was made this year to have Fine Arts feel much less disenfranchised and are consequently getting more involved. She added that there is a good turnout from students applying to be on the Board of Directors and to the Fine Arts faculty council.

M. Giles stated that W. Tai, a member of her commission is helping her out with advocacy and is looking after the academic misconduct cases. She added that the commission is working very closely with advocacy and support services and will be running a seminar in a few weeks to ensure that the student advocates are doing the best possible job they are capable of.

M. Giles stated that she is very happy to have director K. McMurray on her commission, who is extremely knowledgeable and a member of Arts & faculty council for a number of years, in addition to S. Stanislau, an

executive of the Biology Students Association and sitting on the Arts & Science faculty council appointments panel.

M. Giles stated that she hopes that solid work will emerge this year from the Vice President's Academic office and knows that she has been working very hard to ensure that the academic issues of concern to all students are accomplished.

M. Giles encouraged all students to drop by her office and address any issue they may be concerned with.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending this information meeting and informed everyone that there will be a Board of Directors meeting tomorrow at 6:00 p.m. in H-769.

This meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

G. Dubrow, Chairperson

H. Danakas
H. Danakas, Secretary